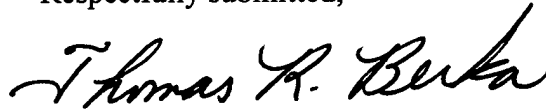


REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of and claiming priority to related, earlier filed applications, Applicants have preliminarily amended the text of the specification on page 1 of this U.S. national stage application to provide a cross-reference to related applications, i.e., to clearly state that this application is a United States national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of international application No. PCT/CA00/00790, filed July 6, 2000, designating the United States and claiming priority to and benefit of United States provisional application No. 60/143,054, filed July 6, 1999, expired. This cross-reference to related applications was previously noted on a Filing Receipt, mailed to Applicants on March 5, 2002 (Confirmation No. 7680). Accordingly, the amendment adds no new matter.

Entry of the amendment to page 1 of the specification is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,




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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence listed above is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10, postage prepaid, Express Mailing Label No. EV 190444643 US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

August 14, 2003  
date

  
Melanie A. McFadden